

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-11 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /087 W

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R 161836Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8846

INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 07801

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CB, SW, VN, VS

SUBJECT: SWEDISH REPORT CONCERNING CAMBODIA ND
VIETNAM

REF: STOCKHOLM 1339

1. SWEDISH DCM JEAN-CHRISTOPHE OBERG TOLD DCM THAT HE WOULD DEPART FRANCE TO BECOME AMBASSADOR IN BANGKOK ABOUT APRIL 30. OBERG, WHO PREVIOUSLY SERVED IN HANOI, IS LOOKING FORWARD TO RETURNING TO SOUTHEAST ASIA. WE HAVE FOUND OBERG TO BE VERY HELPFUL IN GENERAL AND SURPRISINGLY OBJECTIVE IN HIS VIEWS ON ASIA. (DCM WILL BE WRITING AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE ABOUT HIM.)

2. OBERG SAID HE HAD READ REPORTS WRITTEN BY THE SWEDES WHO HAD GONE TO PHNOM PENH. IN SIEM REAP IENG SARY HAD TOLD THE SWEDES QUITE POINTEDLY THAT THEY WERE PURPOSELY "PLAYING DOWN" THE THAI ROLE IN THE "U.; . BOMBING". THE SWEDES CONCLUDED THAT THE CAMBODIANS WISHED IN GENERAL TO HANDLE THE THAI VERY DELICATELY AS PART OF MAINTAINING A THAI OPTION TO IMPROVE THEIR BARGAINING POSITION WITH HANOI. AS FOR
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THE BOMBING ITSELF, OBERG SAID THAT SWEDISH VISITORS

HAD CONCLUDED THAT THE DAMAGE COULD NOT DEFINITELY BE ESTABLISHED AS EITHER RECENT OR CAUSED BY AERIAL ATTACK. SWEDISH INTELLIGENCE EVALUATORS HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT IT WAS NOT RECENT AND PROBABLY CAUSED BY INTERNAL CONFLICT.

3. OBERG SAID THAT A FEW WEEKS AGO HE HAD INVITED DRV VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS NGUYEN CO THACH TO DINNER. OBERG TWITTED THACH ABOUT THE DRV HARD LINE CONCERNING THAILAND (TO WHICH HE NOTED HE WOULD SOON BE POSTED AS AMBASSADOR) AND ASKED WHY THE DRV SEEMED SO CRITICAL OF THE THAI/CAMBODIAN DIALOGUE. THACH IMMEDIATELY BRIDLED AND REPEATED HANOI'S STANDARD, HARSH LINE. OBERG CONCLUDED THAT THE DRV WAS QUITE CONCERNED ABOUT AND ANNOYED BY THE PROSPECTS OF THAI-CAMBODIAN RAPPROCHEMENT.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

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